

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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TAREEM MCDONALD,

Plaintiff,

-against-

CITY OF NEW YORK; Police Officer RONALD JOST, POLICE OFFICER CLIVE THOMAS, LIEUTENANT MATTHEW FICANO, and JOHN and JANE DOE 1 through 10, individually and in their official capacities (the names John and Jane Doe being fictitious, as the true names are presently unknown),

Defendants.

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NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action to recover money damages arising out of the violation of plaintiff's rights under the Constitution.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This action is brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983 and 1988, and the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

3. The jurisdiction of this Court is predicated upon 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343 and 1367(a).

4. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 (b) and (c).

JURY DEMAND

5. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury in this action.

PARTIES

6. Plaintiff Tareem McDonald (“plaintiff” or “Mr. McDonald”) is a resident of Kings County in the City and State of New York.

7. Defendant City of New York is a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York. It operates the NYPD, a department or agency of defendant City of New York responsible for the appointment, training, supervision, promotion and discipline of police officers and supervisory police officers, including the individually named defendants herein.

8. Defendants Police Officer RONALD JOST, (“JOST”), Police Officer CLIVE THOMAS, (“THOMAS”) and Lieutenant MATTHEW FICANO at all times relevant herein, were officers, employees and agents of the NYPD and are sued in their individual and official capacities.

9. At all times relevant defendants John and Jane Doe 1 through 10 were police officers, detectives or supervisors employed by the NYPD. Plaintiff does not know the real names and shield numbers of defendants John and Jane Doe 1 through 10.

10. At all times relevant herein, defendants John and Jane Doe 1 through 10 were acting as agents, servants and employees of defendant City of New York and the

NYPD. Defendants John and Jane Doe 1 through 10 are sued in their individual and official capacities.

11. At all times relevant herein, all individual defendants were acting under color of state law.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

12. At approximately 4:45 p.m. on February 17, 2013, plaintiff was lawfully within the vicinity of 2737 West 33rd Street, Brooklyn, NY.

13. Plaintiff had been visiting a friend, Russell Thompson, who resided at the above address.

14. As plaintiff entered a stairwell, defendants, including approached plaintiff and asked plaintiff whether he resided in the building.

15. Plaintiff informed the officers that he did not live in there but was visiting a friend. Plaintiff provided the friend's name and apartment number.

16. The defendants asked plaintiff for his identification and plaintiff complied.

17. Plaintiff told the defendants that he had done nothing wrong and asked if he could leave.

18. Despite the fact that they had no probable cause to believe that plaintiff had committed any crimes or offenses, the officers placed plaintiff under arrest.

19. The officers transported plaintiff to the police precinct.

20. At the precinct, defendants falsely informed employees of the Kings County District Attorney's Office that they had observed plaintiff trespassing.

21. At no point did the officers observe plaintiff trespassing

22. Plaintiff was taken to Brooklyn Central Booking and was arraigned in Kings County Criminal Court.

23. After approximately twenty-four hours in custody, plaintiff was released, when plaintiff accepted an ACD.

24. Plaintiff suffered damage as a result of defendants' actions. Plaintiff was deprived of his liberty, suffered emotional distress, mental anguish, fear, pain, bodily injury, anxiety, embarrassment, humiliation, and damage to his reputation.

FIRST CLAIM
42 U.S.C. § 1983

25. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation as if fully set forth herein.

26. Defendants, by their conduct toward plaintiffs alleged herein, violated plaintiff's rights guaranteed by 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the Fourth, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

27. As a direct and proximate result of this unlawful conduct, Plaintiff sustained the damages hereinbefore alleged.

SECOND CLAIM

Unlawful Stop and Search

28. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation as if fully set forth herein.

29. Defendants violated the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments because they stopped and searched plaintiff without reasonable suspicion.

30. As a direct and proximate result of this unlawful conduct, plaintiff sustained the damages herein before alleged.

THIRD CLAIM **False Arrest**

31. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation as if fully set forth herein.

32. Defendants violated the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments because they arrested plaintiff without probable cause.

33. As a direct and proximate result of this unlawful conduct, Plaintiff sustained the damages hereinbefore alleged.

FOURTH CLAIM **Failure To Intervene**

34. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation as if fully set forth herein.

35. Those defendants that were present but did not actively participate in the aforementioned unlawful conduct observed such conduct, had an opportunity prevent

such conduct, had a duty to intervene and prevent such conduct and failed to intervene.

36. Accordingly, the defendants who failed to intervene violated the First, Fourth, Fifth And Fourteenth Amendments.

37. As a direct and proximate result of this unlawful conduct, Plaintiff sustained the damages hereinbefore alleged.

FIFTH CLAIM
Denial Of Constitutional Right To Fair Trial

38. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation as if fully set forth herein.

39. The individual defendants created false evidence against Plaintiff.

40. The individual defendants forwarded false evidence to prosecutors in the Kings County District Attorney's office.

41. In creating false evidence against Plaintiff, and in forwarding false information to prosecutors, the individual defendants violated Plaintiff's constitutional right to a fair trial under the Due Process Clause of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

42. As a direct and proximate result of this unlawful conduct, Plaintiff sustained the damages hereinbefore alleged.

SIXTH CLAIM
Malicious Prosecution

43. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the foregoing.

44. By their conduct, as described herein, and acting under color of state law, defendants are liable to plaintiff under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for the violation of his constitutional right to be free from malicious prosecution under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.

45. Defendants' unlawful actions were done willfully, knowingly, with malice and with the specific intent to deprive plaintiff of his constitutional rights. The prosecution by defendants of plaintiff constituted malicious prosecution in that there was no basis for the plaintiff's arrest, yet defendants continued with the prosecution, which was resolved in plaintiff's favor.

46. As a direct and proximate result of defendants' unlawful actions, plaintiffs have suffered, and will continue to suffer, damages, including physical, mental and emotional injury and pain, mental anguish, suffering, humiliation, embarrassment and loss of reputation.

47. As a direct and proximate result of the misconduct and abuse of authority stated above, plaintiff sustained the damages alleged herein.

48. As a direct and proximate result of the misconduct and abuse of authority stated above, plaintiff sustained the damages alleged herein.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff respectfully requests judgment against defendants as follows:

- (a) Compensatory damages against all defendants, jointly and severally;
- (b) Punitive damages against the individual defendants, jointly and severally;
- (c) Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1988; and
- (d) Such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DATED: December 27, 2013
New York, New York

/ss/
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